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DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES  
OCT 31 1988



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STATE OF MONTANA

HELENA, MONTANA 59620

October 20, 1988

Re: Preliminary Environmental Review  
Bumps to Dumps

Darin S. Patzer, Bumps to Dumps, 409 Lincoln Lane, Hamilton  
Edward Patzer, 409 Lincoln Lane, Hamilton  
Ravalli County Commissioners, County Courthouse, Hamilton, MT 59840  
Don Mullin, Sanitarian, Courthouse, Box 5019, Hamilton, MT 59840  
Raymond Arvish, 416 Lincoln Lane, Hamilton  
James Swanz, 501 Lincoln Lane, Hamilton  
Gene Vallance, 401 Lincoln Lane, Hamilton  
Jack Edens, 310 Lincoln Lane, Hamilton  
Tom Ellerhoff, Environmental Sciences Division, DHES, Helena  
Environmental Quality Council, Capitol Complex, Helena  
Documents Section, State Library, Capitol Complex, Helena

Ladies and Gentlemen:

Pursuant to the Administrative Rules of Montana, 16.2.604, the following Preliminary Environmental Review has been prepared by the Department of Health and Environmental Sciences concerning Darin S. Potter/dba/Bumps to Dumps.

The purpose of the Preliminary Environmental Review is to inform all interested governmental agencies, public groups or individuals of the proposed action and to determine whether or not the action may have a significant effect on the human environment. This Preliminary Environmental Review will be circulated for a period of fifteen (15) days at which time a decision will be made as to our future action.

If you care to comment on this proposed action, please do so within the allotted time.

Sincerely,

John Geach  
Solid and Hazardous Waste Bureau  
Environmental Sciences Division  
Telephone (406) 444-2821

Encls.

JG/ba

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DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES  
Cogswell Building, Helena, Montana 59601  
(406) 444-2821

PRELIMINARY ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW

Division/Bureau Environmental Sciences Division/Solid & Hazardous Waste Bureau

Project or Application Bumps to Dumps-Proposed motor vehicle wrecking facility

Description of Project Mr. Darin S. Patzer has made application to the State Department of Health and Environmental Sciences to license a motor vehicle wrecking facility at 409 Lincoln Lane in Hamilton, Montana. This Preliminary Environmental Review is being circulated for public comment on the potential impacts this proposed wrecking facility may have on the environment.

POTENTIAL IMPACT ON PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT

	Major	Moderate	Minor	None	Unknown	Comments on Attached Pages
1. Terrestrial & aquatic life and habitats				X		
2. Water quality, quantity and distribution				X		X
3. Geology & soil quality, stability and moisture				X		
4. Vegetation cover, quantity and quality				X		X
5. Aesthetics				X		X
6. Air quality				X		
7. Unique, endangered, fragile, or limited environmental resources				X		
8. Demands on environmental resources of land, water, air & energy				X		
9. Historical and archaeological sites				X		

# POTENTIAL IMPACTS ON HUMAN ENVIRONMENT

	Major	Moderate	Minor	None	Unknown	Comments on Attached Pages
1. Social structures and mores				X		
2. Cultural uniqueness and diversity				X		
3. Local and state tax base & tax revenue			X			X
4. Agricultural or industrial production				X		
5. Human health				X		
6. Quantity and distribution of community and personal income				X		
7. Access to and quality of recreational and wilderness activities				X		
8. Quantity and distribution of employment				X		X
9. Distribution and density of population and housing				X		
10. Demands for government services			X			X
11. Industrial & commercial activity				X		
12. Demands for energy				X		
13. Locally adopted environmental plans & goals				X		X
14. Transportation networks & traffic flows				X		X

Other groups or agencies contacted or which may have overlapping jurisdiction Ravalli County Planning Board

Individuals or groups contributing to this PER. Ravalli County Health Department

Recommendation concerning preparation of EIS Not Necessary

PER Prepared by: John C. Gack

Date: 10-25-88

DHES/ESD-2

General Comments

Montana law requires any individual who buys, sells or deals in secondhand automobile parts or who buys, sells or deals in four or more junk vehicles per year to obtain a motor vehicle wrecking facility license (Section 75-10-501 MCA). State law further requires all insurance companies to only sell totally damaged motor vehicles to licensed motor vehicle wrecking facilities (Section 75-10-520 MCA).

To be eligible for licensing as a motor vehicle wrecking facility the proposed location must meet the following criteria:

- 1) Conform with all existing zoning ordinances. The establishment of a motor vehicle wrecking facility at Mr. Patzer's proposed location does not conflict with any currently adopted zoning ordinances as certified by the Ravalli County Planning office.
- 2) The location must be capable of being shielded from the view of all public roads within the vicinity of the wrecking facility. Mr. Patzer proposes to license and operate his wrecking facility from the garage at 409 Lincoln Lane. If outside storage of vehicles is necessary, the applicant proposes to use a small shielded area behind the garage.
- 3) The wrecking facility must not create any significant adverse impacts to the environment. This Preliminary Environmental Review has been prepared to assist in the identification and assessment of all possible environmental impacts from this proposed wrecking facility.

Mr. Patzer proposes to purchase wrecked vehicles from insurance companies and rebuild them within the confines of the garage at 409 Lincoln Lane. Currently, a small area behind the garage would provide shielding for one or two vehicles.

Potential Impacts on Physical Environment

2. Water quality, quantity and distribution

Automotive fluids, fuels and lubricants contain heavy metals, toxic ingredients, and petroleum based chemicals which if not properly handled and disposed of could pose significant impacts to the environment. The area of this proposed wrecking facility contains clay soil and a relatively shallow groundwater level (16 to 20 feet).

The applicant proposes to drain all automotive fluids within the garage. All fluids will be containerized and disposed of at the Victor landfill.

Based on the applicant's proposed fluid handling practices, low permeability of the clay soils and topography of the site, the



probability of ground or surface water contamination from this facility is considered very low.

4. Vegetation cover, quantity and quality

The applicant does not propose to establish a large vehicle storage yard which would result in the loss of vegetative cover. No vegetative cover loss is anticipated from the establishment of this facility.

5. Aesthetics

No additional fencing or shielding is proposed. Existing buildings and structures will be used to shield junk vehicles from view of the area's public roads. No aesthetic changes are anticipated from the establishment of this facility.

9. Historical and archaeological sites

No known historical or archaeological sites are within the boundaries of this proposed wrecking facility. No additional structures or topography changes are planned which could destroy or disturb any unknown cultural resources.

Potential Impacts on Human Environment

3. Local and state tax base and tax revenues

If this facility is only used to obtain and rebuild vehicles for personal use, state and local tax revenue will not be generated. However, if rebuilt vehicles or component parts are sold, this facility would be subject to all applicable state and local business taxes. The proposed size of this facility would limit the business volume and tax revenue which may be generated.

8. Quantity and distribution of employment

This wrecking facility will be run only as a hobby or small owner/operator business. No additional employment force demands should be generated by this facility.

9. Demands for government services

The establishment of this wrecking facility will require additional administrative and inspectional services of the Ravalli and State Health Departments.





13. Locally adopted environmental plans and goals

The establishment of this wrecking facility complies with all existing local zoning ordinances.

14. Transportation networks and traffic flows

This proposed wrecking facility is not expected to increase the traffic flow on the roads in the area.

JG/ba

